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Situation of human rights in Nigeria

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

The present addendum is issued in order to update the information contained in the interim report (A/53/366) submitted by Mr. Soli Jehangir Sorabjee, Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Nigeria, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/144 and Economic and Social Council decision 1998/262 of 30 July 1998.

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Annex

Interim report on the situation of human rights in Nigeria, prepared by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/144 and Economic and Social Council decision 1998/262

1. As noted in his report, as of the date of its submission in August 1998, the Special Rapporteur had not received an invitation from the Government of Nigeria to undertake an *in situ* mission to the country in discharge of his mandate.

2. The Special Rapporteur is pleased to report to the General Assembly that by letter of 16 September 1998, the Government of Nigeria invited him to undertake a mission to Nigeria. The Special Rapporteur will therefore travel to Nigeria in the second part of November 1998.

3. The Special Rapporteur appreciates this opportunity to enter into a constructive dialogue with all sectors of Nigerian society and to ensure that the forthcoming session of the Commission on Human Rights receives a more comprehensive picture of the situation in Nigeria.

4. The Special Rapporteur wishes to avail himself of this opportunity to express his regret that his report, published at the end of October 1998, contained an erroneous reference in paragraph 24 to the effect that the 20 Ogoni detainees had not been released. Indeed, information about that commendable act by the Government of Nigeria on 8 September 1998 was immediately brought to the attention of the Special Rapporteur, who took it to be a positive step in the realization of respect for, and protection of, human rights in Nigeria.